

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/677,923

Examiner

Ismael Negron

Applicant(s)

POND ET AL.

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to After-Final Amendment filed February 21, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 20,21,23-30,54-58,69-71 and 74-78.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's amendment filed on February 21, 2006 has been entered. Claims 20, 23, 28, 54, 56, 74 and 76 have been amended. Claims 1-19, 22, 31-53, 59-68, 72, 73, 79 and 80 have been cancelled. No claim has been added. Claims 20, 21, 23-30, 54-58, 69-71 and 74-78 are still pending in this application, with claims 20, 23, 28, 54, 56, 69-71, 74 and 76 being independent.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 20, 21, 23-30, 54-58, 69-71 and 74-78 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant teaches vehicle illumination devices having a housing, a plurality of reflector units including a plurality of LED located at the base of each reflector unit, an inner lens member, and an outer lens member. The inner lens member is formed by an array of lenses, each lens corresponding to an LED. The device includes an alignment mechanism consisting of a plurality of annular extensions integral to an inner face of the outer member, such alignment mechanism being for aligning the inner lens member with the plurality of reflector units (as recited in claims 20 and 69).

In addition, the outer member includes an inner surface including an optical surface, such optical surface including a first optical surface for producing specifically a wide light pattern extending approximately 30° left and right of a vertical axis of the

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device, a second optical surface for producing a narrow light pattern extending approximately  $8^{\circ}$  left and right of the vertical axis of the device and approximately  $0^{\circ}$  to approximately  $4^{\circ}$  up from a longitudinal axis of the device, and a third optical surface for producing a concentrated point of light located approximately  $2^{\circ}$  degrees down from said longitudinal axis and approximately  $2^{\circ}$  right of said vertical axis (as recited in claims 23, 28, 54, 56, 70, 71, 74 and 76).

4. No prior art was found teaching individually, or suggesting in combination, all of the features of the applicants' invention, specifically the claimed alignment mechanism (as recited in claims 20, 21 and 69) or the claimed optical structure of the outer lens member's inner surface (as recited in claims 23-30, 54-58, 70-71 and 74-78).

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ismael Negron whose telephone number is (571) 272-2376. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra L. O'Shea, can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The facsimile machine number for the Art Group is (571) 273-8300.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, go to <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) toll-free at 866-217-9197.



Sandra O'Shea  
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